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having learned the meaning of scientific methods of introspection it is time to move on toward interpreting the history of the human mind wherever we get facts about it, instead of confining ourselves to such facts about it as can be handled with mathematical precision.

M. F. LIBBY.

La Philosophie de H. Taine, par GIACOMO BARZELLOTTI. Tr. from the Italian by Auguste Dietrich. F. Alcan, Paris, 1900. pp. 448.

This is an exposition of Paine's philosophy and his method, and seeks to show that his genius was an eminent expression of the *Zeitgeist*, both intellectual and æsthetic, that as such his systematizations made not only for mental economy, but that his thoughts were the seats of other harvests.

Les Dilemmes de la Métaphysique Pure, par CHARLES RENOUVIER. F. Alcan, Paris, 1901. pp. 288.

The dilemmas are—the unconditioned and the conditioned, substance, the all or function of phenomena, the infinite and the finite, determinism and liberty, the thing or the person. These are all reduced to one alternative, to one thesis and antithesis, viz., being or non-being.

Grundzüge der Psychologie, von HUGO MÜNSTERBERG. Vol. I. J. A. Barth, Leipzig, 1900. pp. 565.

This volume is dedicated to the author's "dear colleague in Harvard University. William James, in sincere reverence and heartiest friendship." This general part, which deals with the principles of psychology, is to be followed by a special part treating the facts. The first part treats the principles of individual, and the second those of sociological psychology. We are promised that the whole will be no objective text-book restating the generally well known facts of the science for the writer's purpose is more subjective. The author will discuss rather than present; will sift out and connect rather than inform; so that from the rich manifoldness of the data, real and unitary features shall appear. His effort is, therefore, at the bottom philosophical. This is especially true of this introductory volume which is more or less complete in itself, treating of fundamental ideas, presuppositions, limitations and ideals of psychology. It is a book of war (*Kampfbuch*), which in an unphilosophical age takes up the gauntlet of idealism against naturalism. The positivistic view of the world, which has one of its strongholds in psychology, must be met, for it is striking its insidious roots into our social consciousness, education, art, ethics, and morals. It cannot be overcome by despising or denying empirical research. Three, and those perhaps the most important chapters, are essentially the same as in the author's *Psychology and Life*. His general position is a kind of synthesis of Schopenhauer, Fichte, and scientific psychology. As far as we have read the second and third parts, they are more or less implied in the author's English work. We hope, however, to recur to these more at length later, especially as the standpoint, which the author ably represents, is so radically different from the idealism to which the writer of this note no less fervently holds.

Text-book of Physiology. Edited by E. A. Schäfer. Vol. I, pp. 1036. Vol. II, pp. 1365. Young J. Pentland, Edinburgh; The Macmillan Co., New York, 1898 and 1900. Price, \$8.00.

Professor Schäfer and his twenty co-laborers have here produced a monument to English physiology which, although less extensive than Hermann's *Handbuch* of twenty years ago, is no less well devised and representative. In comparing the two, one is struck by a progress

hardly less marked than that which separated Hermann from the old four volume Handwörterbuch of Wagner in 1846. While this work owes as all must very much to Hermann, it is a striking reminder of the great progress which physiology has made in the last two decades. Foster's first edition marked an epoch in physiology in English speaking lands, and was a marvel of individual industry and ability, but the field has distinctly outgrown the ken of any one representative, and henceforth every adequate presentation of what is embraced under the term physiology must be co-operative.

By this method the authors are enabled to present in precise form the contents of many hundreds of original papers which are referred to in the notes, so that for general purposes the necessity of referring to first sources is superseded, while for those who need to do so this work is facilitated. The enormous literary work involved in such a book is one of its striking features. The volumes are well supplied with indexes, the first volume having seventy-two and the second one hundred and four pages, while there are five hundred and forty-one cuts and many tables.

Psychologists will be especially pleased with the chapters on nerve, by Gotch; on the nerve cell and the cortex, by Schäfer; on cutaneous sensations and muscle sense, by Sherrington; on vision, by Rivers; the ear and vocal sounds, by M'Kendrick and Gray; and on the senses of taste and smell, by Haycraft. In most cases these later writers have well availed themselves of the experimental work of psychologists who, if they often find that articles they would like to see considered, have not been noticed as sometimes occurs, will not be too critical with a gift horse. Every working psychologist will need this book at hand until it is superseded by a better.

It is easy to criticise, but we cannot forbear expressing our regret that the subjects of generation and reproduction, as well as the physiology of the cell generally considered in such treatises, have been omitted, partly because the subjects involve morphological methods, and partly because they are so important that they would swell the size of the volumes unduly.

Diffusion of the Motor Impulse. WISSLER AND RICHARDSON. *Psy. Rev.*, Jan., 1900. pp. 29-38.

In this paper experiments on arm muscles are described, having for their object the determination of the order of secondary contractions when the *abductor indices* and the biceps are respectively exercised by a series of movements. By means of tambours and kymograph, records of muscular contractions of two young men were obtained which show that when the motor discharge is directed to an extreme accessory muscle of the arm, diffusion is primarily to the muscle directly innervated and secondarily to adjacent related muscles in the order of their distance anatomically from the muscle innervated. The experiments also show diffusion to be downward as well as upward, and lead to interesting hypotheses respecting "cross education."

F. H. SAUNDERS.

Effets du travail de certains groupes musculaires sur d'autres groupes qui ne font aucun travail. KRONECKER AND CUTTER. *Comptes Rendus*, T. CXXXI, No 10 (3 Sept., 1900). p. 492.

This communication reports the results of experiments to determine the effects on the power of the biceps group of muscles of exercising the lower limbs in mountain climbing. The tests made after climbs requiring varying time and exertion clearly indicated in all cases gains in power in biceps muscles. The writers express the opinion that the effect is due to increase of circulation of blood or lymph.

F. H. SAUNDERS.